

# Hepatitis C Antibody

**Administering Department:** Virology

**Test Contact:** Kari Getz 334-2235 ext 229

**Purpose of Test:**

To screen for the presence of antibodies to the Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) in human serum or plasma.

**Method:** Enzyme-Linked Immunoassay

**Sample and Submission Guidelines:**

0.5 ml serum or plasma

Properly labeled specimen must be accompanied by an STD or Virus & Misc. Serological Tests form, complete with collection date and submitter address.

**Possible Results and Meaning:**

**Negative:** no significant level of antibody detected; does not exclude the possibility of exposure to HCV. Levels of antibody may be undetectable in early infection.

**Positive, S/CO ratio  $\geq 3.8$ :** highly predictive of the presence of Hepatitis C Virus antibodies

**Positive, S/CO ratio  $< 3.8$ :** supplemental serologic testing such as RIBA should be performed to establish true antibody status.

The presence of antibody is indicative of current and/or past infection with HCV

**Turn-Around-Time:** One week for negatives, two weeks for positives (specimens that test reactive are retested in duplicate in next run.)